

CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY
MEETING MINUTES
January 19, 2000
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

The meeting of the California High-Speed Rail Authority was called to order at 1:00 PM. on January 19, 2000 at City Council Chambers in Sacramento, California.

Members Present: Michael Tennenbaum, Chairman
 James R. Mills
 Dr. Ernest A. Bates
 Jerry B. Epstein
 Donna Lee Andrews
 John P. Fowler
 William E. Leonard

Members Absent: Edward P. Graveline, Vice Chairman
 T. J. Stapleton

Approval of Minutes for December 15, 1999 Meeting

Chairman Tennenbaum presented the minutes for approval. Member Bates moved to approve the minutes. Member Epstein seconded the motion, which carried 7-0. (Members Graveline and Stapleton were absent.)

Members Report

Chairman Tennenbaum asked if any Members had anything to report. Member Mills reported that he and the Executive Director, Mehdi Morshed, met with Amtrak staff in San Diego. He felt that the meeting was very productive.

Chairman Tennenbaum reported that he, Member Andrews, and Executive Director Morshed had met with a number of Legislators to present the Authority's draft Business Plan.

Executive Director Report

Executive Director Morshed further discussed the Amtrak meeting with Member Mills. He stated that Amtrak has a \$5 million project to look at various Amtrak corridors in California and rank them in terms of priorities and what type of improvements are necessary.

Executive Director Morshed stated that copies of Assemblyman Florez's proposed legislation, AB 1703 has been provided to Members. He stated that AB 1703 would do three things: 1) Remove the sunset on the Authority's legislation, 2) direct the Authority to begin the EIR, and 3) provide and define new term of office for members of the Authority, giving Governor Davis an opportunity to appoint either new members or reappoint current members.

Executive Director Morshed also stated that, as Chairman Tennenbaum pointed out earlier, he and the Chairman, along with Member Andrews had been meeting with individual Legislators regarding the Authority's draft Business Plan. He stated that Member Leonard and Member

Bates had also been meeting with Legislators. He stated that the purpose of these meeting was to let Legislators know what the draft Business Plan is and what the process is for holding public workshops in their respective areas to solicit input and comments.

Executive Director Morshed stated that currently, there is no major business item to necessitate a February Authority meeting, and it may be cancelled. He further stated that staff is considering combining the February meeting with a public workshop in Orange County, perhaps Irvine.

Executive Director Morshed recommended changing the March Authority meeting from March 15th to March 22nd, due to a conflict with Chairman Tennenbaum's schedule.

Executive Director Morshed stated that Member Leonard would be in Washington, D.C. the week of February 7th and that staff would be setting up meetings with Congressional Members and Member Leonard to present the Business Plan, and brief them on the California High Speed Rail Authority.

Executive Director Morshed also stated that the Governor's proposed budget has \$1 million dollars for the next fiscal year for the Authority. He stated that the Department of Finance asked the Authority staff how many contracts it would award in the next year. The Authority's response was that unless legislation was passed to go ahead with an EIR, no contracts would be awarded. He stated that a final Business Plan is the last major action by the board. Mr. Morshed further stated that without consultant contracts, \$2 million would be subtracted from the budget, leaving \$1 million to fund the Authority operating costs and staff only.

Authority Members Meetings for Compensation

Executive Director Morshed presented the list of meetings for compensation. Member Mills moved to approve the list. Member Bates seconded the motion, which carried 7-0. (Members Graveline and Stapleton were absent.)

Maglev Deployment Program Update

Executive Director Morshed introduced Mr. Al Perdon, Program Manager for his presentation on Maglev alignment options. A copy of his presentation is available upon request.

Presentation and Review of the Workshop Schedule for the Draft Business Plan

Executive Director Morshed presented the schedule of public workshops for January and February. He stated that as further meetings are scheduled, Members would be notified. He encouraged Members to attend as many workshops as possible, particularly in their own areas.

Deputy Director Barna reported the Authority's website would be updated and improved. He stated that the new website would be more user-friendly to members of the public. He also stated that the Business Plan could be downloaded and printed directly from the website. He stated that the goal was to have the new website up by the end of January.

Executive Director Morshed stated that it was important to have at least a dozen public workshops in 90 days and that it would take a commitment on the Member's part to attend the scheduled workshops.

Member Leonard stated that with numerous workshops scheduled, that it would be impossible to have all Members present at every meeting. He further stated that the Authority should have the workshops regardless of how many Members attend.

Member Andrews stated that the Authority should have a goal of having a minimum of five Members present at the public workshops.

Executive Director Morshed requested that the Members provide a calendar of appointments to staff to schedule further public workshops.

Member Mills invited any member of the public to comment on this item. (Chairman Tennenbaum left the meeting, and turned over the Chair duties to Member Mills.)

Mr. Paul Glaab, representing the City of Irvine, stated that Irvine would be pleased to welcome the Authority to meet and have a public workshop in Irvine on February 16.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:35pm.